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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Agricultural Estimates
Box 1778, Boise, Idaho

PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS
March 15, 1952

IDAHO: The index of prices received by Idaho farmers at 321 equaled the all-time high established last March according to the USDA CROP REPORTING SERVICE for Idaho. The index level this month was eight points above that established on February 15 of this year.

The crop index was up 19 points while the livestock and livestock products index was 4 points below a month ago. Among the crops, alfalfa hay gained an average of \$3.50 per loose ton, potatoes and apples 30¢ each per bushel and wheat 2¢. In the livestock group, hogs were down an average of 20¢ per cwt., lambs 60¢ per cwt., and eggs 3¢ per dozen. However, the average price received for chickens was up 3.5¢ per pound.

Prices paid for some feeds were up while others were down. Mixed dairy feed declined 20¢ per cwt., while laying mash gained about 10¢. The chicken-feed ratio on March 15 was up sharply while the egg-feed ratio was slightly lower.

INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES RECEIVED BY IDAHO FARMERS*
(1910-14 = 100)

YEAR AND MONTH	All Com- modi- ties	C R O P S					L I V E S T O C K				
		All Crops	Grains	Feed Crops	Fruit and Vege- tables	Other Crops	All L. S. & Meat L. S. Ani- Prod. mals	Poul- try Prod- ucts	Dairy Prod- ucts	Other L. S. Prod- ucts	
Ave. 1910-14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1946	228	210	212	216	207	198	249	260	163	251	250
1947	278	244	288	273	197	232	317	354	185	279	244
1948	287	237	266	262	201	221	346	392	193	296	251
1949	258	214	238	241	179	191	309	352	173	232	276
1950	260	196	241	231	137	186	335	391	143	231	326
1951	308	208	258	255	127	197	426	494	181	260	515
1951 Mar.	321	198	259	250	103	194	467	530	157	259	778
Apr.	310	196	256	246	103	196	445	518	158	259	599
May	303	191	257	244	92	190	436	506	162	259	569
June	300	188	251	242	82	195	432	502	179	259	539
July	305	201	250	241	128	197	427	496	198	259	509
Aug.	300	199	250	244	123	185	419	492	204	252	449
Sept.	306	215	249	248	168	190	414	494	207	252	359
Oct.	307	222	260	262	159	199	409	486	207	256	359
Nov.	314	243	273	290	176	211	400	467	214	267	359
Dec.	318	256	274	303	198	209	392	459	191	274	329
1952 Jan.	319	266	276	314	211	206	382	445	161	286	329
Feb.	313	260	278	306	209	204	375	438	145	293	299
Mar.	321	279	280	319	250	202	371	433	141	293	299

* Prepared and published through the courtesy of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Idaho.

UNITED STATES: The Parity Ratio remained at 100 in mid-March as the Index of Prices Received by Farmers and the Parity Index showed little change. The Index of Prices Received by Farmers at 288 percent of the 1910-14 average in mid-March was 1 point (3/10 of 1 percent) less than in February and was 23 points (7 percent) less than in March 1951, but with that exception was the highest of record for March. The index, however, was at the lowest point since December 1950.

During the same period, the Index of Prices Paid by Farmers including Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates remained at the record high of 288. Upturns in prices of household furnishings, building materials, fertilizer, and tractors were offset by lower prices for feeder livestock, feed, food, clothing, and motor supplies. The Parity Index in mid-March was 3 percent higher than a year earlier.

PARITY RATIO TABLE - UNITED STATES

Indexes 1910-14 = 100	Mar. 15 1951	Feb. 15 1952	Mar. 15 1952	Record High Index Date
Prices Received	311	289	288	313 Feb. 1951
Parity Index 1/	280	288	288	288 Feb. 1952 2/
Parity Ratio	111	100	100	122 Oct. 1946

1/ Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates. 2/ Also March 1952.

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PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND U.S. PARITY PRICES, MARCH 15, 1952

COMMODITY	Unit	I D A H O			UNITED STATES			U.S. PARITY PRICES d/		
		Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Feb.	Mar.	e/	Effec-	Average
		15	15	15	15	15	15	Base	tive	Price
		1951	1952	1952	1951	1952	1952	Period	Price	as % of
								Price		Parity
										Percent
Wheat	Bu.	1.93	2.04	2.06	2.12	2.18	2.20	# .884	2.46	89
Oats	"	.82	1.06	1.07	.909	.890	.891	# .399	g/.944	94
Barley	"	1.15	1.49	1.47	1.34	1.38	1.36	# .619	g/1.46	a/
Apples	"	1.25	2.00	2.00	1.96	2.36	2.45	.991	2.85	86
Potatoes	"	.60	1.40	1.70	1.06	2.05	2.16	f/1.12	g/1.73	125
Dry Beans	Cwt.	6.60	6.80	6.80	8.16	7.76	7.77	3.20	9.22	84
Dry Peas	"	5.50	3.80	4.50	5.22	3.94	4.12	a/	a/	a/
Hay, all**	Ton	19.70	34.50	38.00	23.10	25.40	25.10	a/	a/	a/
Alf. Seed	Bu.	34.00	34.50	34.00	23.50	25.90	26.40	a/	a/	a/
R. Clo. Seed	"	18.70	20.10	19.00	19.20	19.90	20.00	a/	a/	a/
Hogs	Cwt.	22.60	18.00	17.80	21.20	17.20	16.70	7.49	21.60	77
Beef Cattle	"	31.00	28.50	28.50	29.70	27.60	27.60	7.36	21.20	130
Lambs	"	34.00	25.40	24.80	35.00	26.80	25.60	8.09	23.30	110
Butterfat b/	Lb.	.69	.78	.76	.697	.829	.778	.267	.769	h/100
Milk c/	Cwt.	*3.70	*4.35	4.10	4.54	5.09	4.92	1.68	4.84	h/103
Chickens	Lb.	.258	.231	.266	.289	.257	.250	.107	.308	81
Eggs	Doz.	.410	.380	.350	.437	.346	.339	# .215	g/.508	h/ 77
Milk Cows	Head	265.00	265.00	270.00	245.00	255.00	256.00	a/	a/	a/

* Revised. ** Baled. # 60-mo. average, Aug. 1909-July 1914. a/Not published.
b/Butterfat in cream. c/Wholesale milk. d/Parity prices are computed under the provisions of Title III, Subtitle A, Section 301 (a) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 as amended by the Agricultural Acts of 1948 and 1949. e/Adjusted base period prices 1910-14, based on 120 mo. average Jan. 1941-Dec. 1950 unless otherwise noted. f/10-season average 1919-28. g/Transitional parity, 85 percent of parity price computed under formula in use prior to Jan. 1, 1950. h/Percentage of seasonally adjusted prices to parity prices.

PRICES PAID BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	Unit	I D A H O			UNITED STATES		
		Mar.15	Feb.15	Mar.15	Mar.15	Feb.15	Mar.15
		1951	1952	1952	1951	1952	1952
Mixed Dairy Feed	Cwt.	4.20	4.80	4.60	4.16	4.51	4.56
Cottonseed	"	5.30	5.40	5.60	4.89	5.10	5.06
Bran	"	2.80	3.75	3.65	3.31	4.04	4.02
Middlings	"	2.95	3.90	3.75	3.47	4.12	4.09
Laying Mash	"	5.10	5.50	5.60	4.92	5.31	5.29
Scratch Grain	"	4.70	5.00	5.15	4.50	4.68	4.68
Poultry Ration 1/	"	4.00	4.35	4.42	4.00	4.25	4.24
PRICE RATIOS 2/							
Chicken-Feed		6.4	5.3	6.0	7.2	6.0	5.9
Egg-Feed		10.2	8.7	7.9	10.9	8.1	8.0

1/Average prices paid for purchased feeds and local market prices of grains fed.
2/Number of pounds of poultry feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs and to 1 pound of chicken.

UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PAID BY FARMERS
(Jan. 1910-1914 = 100)

INDEXES AND RATIOS	5-year average		1 9 5 1			1 9 5 2		
	Jan.1910	Jan.1935	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
	Dec.1914	Dec.1939	15	15	15	15	15	15
UNADJUSTED Prices Received								
All Farm Products	100	107	300	313	311	300	289	288
All Crops	100	99	275	283	276	277	259	265
Livestock & Products	100	115	323	340	343	320	317	310
			1950	1 9 5 1		1952		
PRICES PAID by Farmers*			Dec.	Feb.	Mar.	Dec.	Feb.	Mar.
Commodities & Services, Interest, Taxes, and Wage Rates	100	125	15	15	15	15	15	15
Prices Paid	100	124	265	276	280	284	288	288
Commodities used for family living	100	124	257	267	272	273	276	276
Commodities used for production	100	124	257	265	269	272	271	271
PARITY RATIO #	100	86	108	113	111	107	100	100

* January 1950 revision. # Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid Interest, Taxes and Wage Rates. This Parity Ratio will not necessarily be identical to a weighted average percent of parity for all farm products, largely because parity prices for some products are on a transitional basis.